

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 SPC-03 AID-20 NSC-10

RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

LAB-06 SIL-01 SCEM-02 INT-08 DRC-01 IGA-02 IO-14 L-03

H-03 /185 W

----- 118263

R 291115Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4930

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 9137

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, XF

SUBJECT: RECENT OPEC PRICE INCREASE

REF: BEIRUT 14658

1. THERE APPEARS TO BE NO DOUBT THAT IRAN TOOK THE LEAD AT THE RECENT OPEC MEETING IN ATTEMPTING TO RELATE THE PRICE OF CRUDE OIL TO THE COST OF DEVELOPING ALTERNATE SOURCES OF ENERGY. WE SERIOUSLY QUESTION, HOWEVER, THAT IRAN WOULD HAVE OPENED THE MEETING WITH A CALL FOR A GOVERNMENT TAKE OF \$14 PER BARREL. THIS DOES NOT MAKE SENSE IN TERMS OF IRAN'S OWN SELF-INTEREST.

2. WE SHOULD LIKE TO NOTE THE FOLLOWING: (A) RUMORS AMONG THE PRESS HERE WERE THAT MOST ARABS, INCLUDING KUWAIT AND ABU DHABI, FAVORED LOWER PRICES. NEITHER  
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THEY NOR THE SAUDIS, HOWEVER, COULD HAVE BEEN FORCED TO

ACCEPT A FIGURE THEY GENUINELY BELIEVED TO BE UNWISE.  
(B) SAUDIS AND IRANIANS ARE NOT ABOVE PUTTING EACH OTHER  
IN LEAST FAVORABLE LIGHT. BEIRUT'S COMMENT IN REFTEL  
IS RELEVANT. (C) THE PROBLEM IS NOT TO FIND A  
CULPRIT, BUT TO DEVISE A WAY TO COPE WITH A SITUATION THAT  
CAN EASILY GET OUT OF HAND.  
HELMS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PETROLEUM, FOREIGN RELATIONS, PRICES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 DEC 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973TEHRAN09137  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** TEHRAN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t1973121/aaaaaajt.tel  
**Line Count:** 68  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** BEIRUT 14658  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27 DEC 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <27-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <10-Jan-2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

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US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RECENT OPEC PRICE INCREASE  
**TAGS:** ENRG, XF, OPEC, (PAHLAVI, MOHAMMED REZA)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005